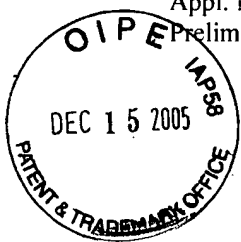


Appl. No. 10/086,043

Preliminary Amendment accompanying Request for Continued Examination



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/086,043 Confirmation No. 8887
Applicant : S. Mark Haugland
Filed : February 28, 2002
TC/A.U. : 2125
Examiner : Ortiz Rodriguez, Carlos R.
Docket No. : PAT009US
Customer No. : 32656

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMANYING
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Dear Sir:

In response to the first office action in the instant application, mailed by the PTO on September 16, 2005 (the "Office Action"), Applicant has elected to file a Request for Continued Examination, which RCE this Preliminary Amendment accompanies. The RCE is filed on or before December 16, 2005, and is therefore timely filed. In this Preliminary Amendment to the RCE:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.

12/19/2005 DEMMANU1 00000037 10086043

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03 FC:1202 850.00 OP